Somerset Berkley Softball League (SBSL) Bylaws

August 21, 2026 Edition

Article I. - Name & Identification

Section 1.01

- The official name of the non-profit organization is “Somerset Berkley Softball League” (SBSL or “League”).
- Use and sales of the name/logo on apparel or awards require a formal board vote.

Article II. - Objective & Mission

Section 2.01

- SBSL aims to provide supervised, competitive softball for eligible players, promoting sportsmanship, skill development, self-confidence, and fun. The league shall maintain a Recreational program for all skill levels and a competitive Travel program to appeal to youth players of all ages.

Section 2.02

- Mission: SBSL is dedicated to educating young girls in the fundamentals of softball, while fostering friendships and promoting the values of honesty, loyalty, respect, teamwork, and good sportsmanship. SBSL is committed to providing a fun, safe, and supportive environment, equipped with quality facilities and equipment, and guided by responsible adult leadership. Our mission is to ensure that every participant can learn, grow, and develop self-confidence both on and off the field.

Article III. - Membership & Voting

Section 3.01

- Members of SBSL are the Board of Directors, coaches, parents/guardians, and volunteers.

Section 3.02

- An annual meeting is held where each member gets one vote for officer elections.

Section 3.03

- Nominations must be submitted 30 days before election day; announced 30 days prior.

Article IV. - Conduct & Compliance

Section 4.01

- All Board Members, coaches, and volunteers must pass background checks and be Safe Sport certified as required by USA Softball and the league.
- Good sportsmanship shall be a priority of the League. All coaches shall instill the elements of good sportsmanship into the Players of their team. After each game, each team shall congratulate each other on a well-played game. Unsportsmanlike

conduct to include by not limited to making disparaging remarks to the opposing Team/Player(s), not congratulating after the game, throwing or misusing league equipment or other similar type behavior will not be tolerated. A minimum one-game suspension, or a more severe penalty, may be imposed for any occurrence and/or subsequent offenses, as determined by the Board.

- No foul language will be allowed. Any Head Coaches/Assistant Coach/Player using foul language directed toward Umpires, Head Coaches, Assistant Coaches, Players and/or Fans, should be reported to the Umpire and will receive:
    1. 1st infraction: Automatic ejection and report to the Board.
    2. 2nd infraction: An automatic one-week suspension from the league.
    3. 3rd infraction: Must appear before the Executive Board for vote on extended suspension.
- No combative physical contact will be allowed between Head Coaches/Assistant Coaches/Players. With Head Coaches/Assistant Coaches, Umpires or Players. Any such person will be immediately ejected from the game/field.
- The person ejected must appear before the Executive Board which will vote to:
    1. Reinstatement
    2. Determine the number of games for suspension
    3. Assess a one season suspension or
    4. Suspend indefinitely
- Special care should be taken when dealing with children. Verbal abuse in the form of harassment or derogatory comments aimed at belittling children will not be tolerated. A minimum one-game suspension, or a more severe penalty, may be imposed for any occurrence and/or subsequent offenses, as determined by the Board.
- The use of tobacco or vaping products is strictly prohibited in the following areas:
    1. Inside any dugout
    2. One the field of play
    3. In or in front of the concession stand building
- No alcohol shall be consumed by players, coaches, or other adults during game play.

Section 4.02

- All participants must adhere to a Code of Conduct, agreed to at the time of registration.

Article V. - Board Powers, Duties & Meetings

Section 5.01 – Board Powers

- The SBSL shall have the following powers in addition to powers expressly or implicitly conferred by law:
    - To make and enforce rules to govern itself and the league.
    - To solicit funds for the proper operation of the league.
    - To suspend the bylaws for emergency situations, with unanimous vote and written documentation. Suspension cannot override legal or safety requirements.

Section 5.02 – Board Positions

- Open positions on the Board will be filled by election at the annual meeting and all positions filled are held for one year.
- When possible, no more than two positions on the Board should be held by any one member.
- Board positions can be performed by committee when necessary.
- If an Executive Board member resigns or is terminated before their full term has been completed, a special election will be held in a timely manner.

Section 5.03 - Board Responsibilities

- Approval of all expenditures over $500.00.
- Filling of any vacancies on the Board between scheduled elections.
- Administration of the league, including decisions affecting its operation and welfare.
- Approval of registration fees and a yearly budget.
- Approval of proposed changes to the Bylaws.
- Dismissal of a Board member, coach, or any other league appointee.
- Formation of travel, all-star, or other specialized teams in accordance with these bylaws and other organizations as required.
- Board members shall act in the best interest of all League constituents, prioritizing collective welfare over individual concerns. Decisions and actions of the Board shall be guided by the greater good of the League community.

Section 5.04 – Board Meetings

<u>Monthly Board Meetings:</u>

- Meeting schedule will be made by the President annually with a minimum of one meeting a month.
- Meeting logistics will be announced as far in advance as possible. In addition, a group email will be distributed to all registered email addresses of the members announcing Board Meetings, dates, and times.
- Special Board meetings may be called by the President at any time to attend to league business.

- A quorum of at least fifty percent (50%) of the members including the President of the Executive Board must be present at the Board meeting.
- Any Executive Board member who is absent for two consecutive Board meetings may be removed from the Board by majority vote.
- A member must be present for at least 75% of any meeting to be considered having attended that month's meeting.
- Each Board member will get one vote regardless of multiple board positions held by a single member.
- A tie vote means the President breaks the tie.
  Quarterly Board Meetings
- Public meetings will be held once a quarter (March, June, September, December) and will adhere to public meeting rules. Parents, youth or any member of the public shall be given an opportunity to speak, contingent on the following rules:
    - The public input time will last up to 30 minutes
    - Each member must sign in at the beginning of the meeting
    - Each speaker will have 2 minutes and may speak once
    - Others must respect the speaker and not interrupt
    - No profanity, threats, or uncivil language will be tolerated. Should it occur:
        - 1st infraction: Verbal warning from a Board Member
        - 2nd infraction: A five-minute Board recess
        - 3rd infraction: Offender must leave, or immediate meeting adjournment

Section 5.05 – Electronic Voting and Transfer of league information

- Electronic messaging such as texting or email may be utilized by Board member as a method to communicate and vote on issues that arise between meetings. This will not preclude any Board member from not attending meetings. The intent of utilizing electronic messaging is to expedite resolving issues that may arise that require immediate attention or when a Board member cannot be present but wishes to voice an opinion or cast a vote.
- This will not apply to the yearly general membership meetings.

Section 5.06 – Board Discipline Process

- The Board of Directors, by a majority vote of the entire Board, shall have the authority to discipline, suspend or terminate the membership of any member of any class when the conduct of the member is considered detrimental to the best interests of the league. The member shall be notified of such a meeting, informed of the general nature of the charges, and given an opportunity to appear at the meeting to answer such charges.

- The Board shall, in the case of a player member, give notice to the Head Coach of the team of which the player is a member and the parents/guardians of the player. Said Head Coach and Parents/Guardians shall appear, in the capacity of an advisor, with the player before the Board, which will have full power to alter, suspend, or revoke such player's right to participate in the league.

Section 5.07 – Centralized Debit Card System

- The League shall maintain a board-approved centralized debit card system (i.e., Greenlight or comparable service) administered by the Treasurer with Presidential oversight, allowing designated Directors limited card access for league expenses; all transactions must remain transparent, subject to Board review, and compliant with nonprofit financial regulations.
- Prepaid Cards issued under SBSL authority shall be used exclusively for league-related expenses, including tournament fees, field maintenance, equipment, and approved operational costs.
- No funds may be transferred from the SBSL Primary Account or any Secondary Account into any Investment Account, savings feature, or other financial product offered through the pre-paid card company or its affiliates.
- No board member, Authorized Approver, or Supported Adult may initiate or approve transactions that involve investment services, savings accounts, or non-league personal use.
- Pre-paid cards must remain tied to the league's Primary Account. No Secondary Accounts or Supported Adult Accounts may be created for personal or family use.
- All purchases made with a league-issued prepaid card must be accompanied by a receipt, submitted to the Treasurer via email or in person at each monthly meeting.

Article VI. Board Positions

Section 6.01 – General Duties

- Adhere to the objective and requirements of the SBSL Bylaws.
- Attend as many scheduled league general meetings as possible.
- Complete the term of office granted in good faith.

Section 6.02 – President

- Provide oversight of all league activities to ensure compliance with the league mission.
- Schedule and preside over all league meetings. Assign a board member to take the minutes of each meeting if the league Secretary is not present.
- Provide oversight to all Board members.
- Ensure and maintain compliance of the leagues 501(c)(3) status as well as compliance with all Federal, State, and Local laws, rules and regulations.

- Serve as the official league point of contact.
- Ensure payment of annual renewals of insurance for the league.
- Represent and speak on behalf of the league and manage the league relationships with the Town of Somerset and Berkley as well as other towns as required.
- Solicit volunteers to fill board vacancies or as needed.
- Manage field usage for practices on a shared calendar.
- Schedule Umpires/Jr Umpires through USA Softball

Section 6.03 – Vice President

- Has the authority to act in the President's absence.
- In the absence of the President, can conduct all business as outlined in Section 6.02 with written permission by the President.
- Will perform duties deemed necessary by the President.
- Implement and oversee Code of Conduct Compliance.
- Implement and oversee CORI checks on all coaches and Board Members (collecting forms, submitting CORI checks).
- Set the Tournament and practice schedules on a shared spreadsheet for the board.
- Create a roster of coaches and players on a shared spreadsheet for the board.

Section 6.04 – Treasurer

- Receive, manage, and distribute all funds as needed on behalf of the league.
- Manage league finances and accounts.
- Financial reporting to the Board no less than monthly, when the SBSL Board is holding regularly scheduled meetings.
- Maintain necessary records and submit reports as required for the preservation of the league's status as a non-profit organization.
- Provide a detailed report to the Board annually that lists all income and expenses as well as outstanding bills and accounts receivable upon request.
- All files are the property of the league and will be transferred to the Board upon completion, resignation, or termination of the position of Treasurer.
- Review all monthly statements (i.e., Bank, Venmo, Paypal, Square, Pre-paid card, etc.) to confirm compliance. Any violation will be considered misuse of league funds and grounds for removal from office

Section 6.05 – Clerk/Secretary

- Take the minutes at all meetings.
- Edit and distribute meeting minutes to the Board via email, keeping hard copy on file.
- Assist Board with news articles and information distribution.

- Maintain hardcopies of league documents such as Bylaws, policies, procedures, and schedules.

Section 6.06 – Facilities & Concession Stand Manager

- Responsible for stocking and resupplying the concession stand throughout the year.
- Oversee the staffing and training of all volunteers.
- Responsible for keeping books and records of sales and expenses and providing that information to the Treasurer.
- Shall coordinate cash deposits from concession stand sales to the league bank account with the Treasurer.
- Responsible for maintaining building safety.
- Maintain security of the concession stand.
- Ensure that all buildings meet all town and state requirements.
- Manage general maintenance and cleanliness of facilities.
- De-winterize buildings prior to season beginning and winterize fields at end of season.

Section 6.07 – Field & Equipment Director

- Maintain and manage equipment inventory.
- Maintain security for the league's equipment sheds.
- Make annual equipment purchase recommendations.
- Ensure compliance by coaches and Board on use and distribution of all equipment.
- Report any lost or stolen equipment to the Board.
- Order trophies for tournaments and the recreational program.
- Order uniforms in accordance with Board guidelines.
- Ensure fields are in a playable state prior to league games / tournaments.
- Create a subcommittee of volunteers to help with field maintenance if required.
- De-winterize fields prior to season beginning and winterize fields at end of season.

Section 6.08 – Recreational Director (Instructional, 8u, 10u, 12u, Senior: 14u - 18+)

- Manage the recreational program in Spring and Fall, including collecting uniform sizes, numbers and distribution, game scheduling, and coach appointments.
- Based on registration numbers, determine the number of teams to be filled.
- Gather volunteer coaches for the recreational season consisting of one Head Coach in each division.
- Put forth a list of head coaches for Board approval.
- Mentor / meet with all coaches in the recreational program to ensure the correct skills are being taught to players and players are having fun, at least once per month during the season.

- Organize and conduct evaluations for players that are new to the division or wish to participate in the draft as needed.
- Organize and conduct a draft for players as needed per season.
- Ensure coaches are aware of any special divisional rules of play for the season.
- Set the game and practice schedules on a shared spreadsheet for the board.
- Create a roster of coaches and players on a shared spreadsheet for the board.

Section 6.09 – Travel Director

- Oversee tryouts, evaluations, team selections, and roster management with head coaches
- Communicate with coaches and families throughout the season
- Mentor / meet with all coaches to the program to help foster consistency and the highest standards throughout the travel program at least once per month.
- Set and enforce expectations for all travel head coaches (arrival time, field prep, volunteer help, conduct, communication)
- Follow up when coaches fail to meet expectations
- Maintain records of player payments with Treasurer and report to the board any delinquencies and/or hardships.
- Ensure coaches meet all league requirements (CORI and Safety certifications, conduct standards, communication expectations)
- Oversee uniforms, equipment needs, and team logistics
- Manage season-long planning: practices, field scheduling, blackout dates, etc., with the President

Section 6.10 – Tournament Director

- Manage field usage for Tournaments on shared calendar with President.
- Secure a board-member fill-in if unable to attend tournament at SBSL (must not be part of the division playing)
- Responsible for registering travel team rosters with USA Softball of Massachusetts.
- Responsible for submitting tournament dates to USA Softball of Massachusetts.
- Responsible for maintaining/updating team registration status for hosted tournaments.
- Manage registrations, brackets, and communication with visiting teams
- Responsible for creating tournament pool play and bracket game schedule and submitting to the local USA Softball of Massachusetts Commissioner and Bristol County Umpires Association Assignor.
- Coordinate umpires for all hosted tournaments
- Ensure tournament rules, safety, timing, and game flow run smoothly
- Work with the Treasurer on entry fees, payouts, and financial tracking

- Coordinate with the Field/Equipment Director to order trophies for hosted tournaments.

Article VII. - Bylaws Review

Section 7.01 - Annual SBSL Bylaw review

- Change requests can be made by any member at any time.
- Change requests must be submitted to or by an active Board member.
- If agreement on a change cannot be achieved, or if the league President deems it necessary, a bylaw committee will be formed.
- The Bylaw Committee will review requests, discuss them with the submitter, and review all content to assure that requests are in the best interest of the league.
- The Bylaw Committee will present the request with their recommendation to the Board for a vote.
- The committee shall consist of three to five members, appointed by the President. These members must be:
    1. Current SBSL Board members or
    2. Individuals with prior board experience or relevant governance expertise, subject to Board approval.
- The Bylaws will be reviewed annually at the end of September.

Article VIII. - Election of Board Members

Section 8.01 General

- The election of Board Members will take place at the Annual Meeting occurring in the Fall.
- Nominations will be accepted by writing via email, US mail, or given to a current Board Member.
- Majority vote will determine winners. In the event of a tie, the President will make the final decision.
- Upon election, each new Board Member will be subject to a CORI check if a current CORI check is not on file.
- Any criminal history may result in the dismissal from his or her elected position.

Section 8.02 Filling Uncontested Positions

- The Board has the power to fill by appointment, any vacancy in any office in between scheduled elections.
- At the nomination meeting the Board members will vote on the nominations and the winners will be placed on a ballot with an indication of Board endorsement.
- The complete ballot will be sent to all members via email with the instructions that they either accept the Board's endorsements, or they reply with an alternative candidate for one or more offices.

- Provided that not more than 25% of the membership replies with an alternative candidate, the Board's endorsement will be deemed acceptable by the membership.

Section 8.03 Filling Contested Positions

- If more than 25% of the membership replies with an alternate candidate, or if the Board cannot reach a consensus on a candidate, all the proposed candidates will be placed on a ballot and sent to the membership.
- Majority vote will win the position; if no candidate wins a majority, the top two will run off in the same manner until a winner is determined.

Article IX. - Player Eligibility

Section 9.01 Divisions

- Players will be divided by their age based on their age as of September 1st of the league year.
- Players age 6 and under and at least 4 are eligible to play in the Instructional Division.
- Players age 8 and under are eligible to play in the 8U Division.
- Players age 10 and under are eligible to play in the 10U Division.
- Players age 12 and under are eligible to play in the 12U Division.
- Players aged 13-18 are eligible to play in the Senior Division.
- The Board has the authority to eliminate and /or combine any of the divisions as needed.

Section 9.02 Special Requests

- A written request must be submitted to the Board of Directors for placement on a specific team. Requests will be accommodated to the best of the Board's ability but are not guaranteed. Overall league balance is the priority.

Article X. - Registration

Section 10.01

- All girls must register by a league-defined method to play in the league.
- A cut-off date for registration will be announced by the Board. Late registrations may be accepted at the discretion of the Board. A late fee may be charged.
- The Board may, by majority vote, revise registration fees prior to the start of each registration period.
- Registration fees will be refunded at the discretion of the Board on a case-by-case basis with a majority vote of the Board.

Article XI. - Evaluations

Section 11.01 - Requirements

- Instructional Division and 8U will not hold evaluations. Any player who registers for Instructional Division or 8U will be placed on a team by the Division Director.
- Any player that is new to either the 10U, 12U, or Senior Division must show up to evaluations to be entered in the draft.

- If a player is unable to attend evaluations, they will be placed on a team after the completion of the draft at the discretion of the Board and the coaches.
- Returning players who will play in the same division as the previous year are not required to attend evaluations and will remain on the same team provided that the team still exists, and a division-wide re-draft is not needed.
- Any returning player that is not new to the division but wishes to change teams and enter the draft must submit a written request to the Board of Directors. Upon the Board's approval the player must show up to evaluations.
- No player should sit out more than 2 inning game during the recreational season without sufficient reason. Attendance at practices is important to the development of the player and the team. Excessive absences can result in the player being "benched" for a game, at the sole discretion of the Head Coach.
- All players are to wear a team jersey/uniform as provided by the league.
- All players are to wear appropriate cleats, sliding shorts, and a face mask (if required).

Section 11.02 Player Promotion ("Playing Up")

- A player may move up into the next division if they attend the upper division evaluation, there is room in said division as determined by the Division Director, and a team drafts that player. 12U players are ineligible to play up in the Senior Division.
- At the conclusion of the 12U season a player who will be aging out will be given the opportunity to play in the Senior Division when needed.

Section 11.03 Player Demotion ("Playing Down")

- A player may be moved down a division if it is determined by the Board that the overall safety of the player would be at risk by playing in the age-appropriate division and that the player would not pose a safety risk to the players in the lower division. This action is to be used only if necessary in recreation.

Article XII. - Coaching Staff

Section 12.01 Appointment of Head Coaches

- All coaches will be subject to a CORI check prior to participating in any activity with the players.
- All coaches will be subject to completing safety training courses prior to participating in any activity with the players.
- Assignments of Head Coaches are at the discretion of the Board and are required to be voted in by a majority vote prior to the start of the season.
- Travel Team or All-Star coaches will be determined by a vote of the Board.

Section 12.02 Appointment of Assistant Coaches

- Prior to evaluations each head coach will be allowed to select one (1) assistant coach.
- Additional assistant coaches will be assigned to a team based on draft results.
- Assistant coaches who were with a team in the previous season may remain with the same team unless a re-draft is necessary.

- All Assistant Coaches will be subject to a CORI check prior to participating in any activity with the players.

Section 12.03 - Responsibilities

- All head and assistant coaches must abide by the "Code of Conduct".
- Attend preseason meetings, player evaluations, and coaches' clinics.
- Communicate with the Division Director on matters for the Board.
- Teach and implement at a level appropriate to the division.
- Practice should be determined by the Head Coach after collaborating with Vice President. Game schedules will be determined by the Vice President.
- Coaches are required to prepare the field for play. Raking and water removal when necessary. Lining of the field, including pitchers circle, batter's boxes, and foul lines are required.

Section 12.04 - Game Management Regarding Umpires

- All coaches (Head coaches and assistants) are expected to demonstrate the highest standard of sportsmanship for the benefit of their team regarding the umpires.
- Coaches are to always address the umpires politely and constructively and will communicate with the umpires only to:
    1. Determine the nature of the call (safe/out, strike/ball, count, etc.)
    2. Ask the umpire to speak up if the coach cannot hear.
- Coaches will not challenge a call made by an umpire at the time of the call.
    1. A coach seeking a better understanding of a rule may ask permission to speak with the umpire between innings provided such communication does not interfere with the flow of the game. It is preferred that such communication involves the opposing head coach as well.
    2. Coaches questioning an umpire's call will communicate with the Division Director after the completion of the game. The Division Director will involve the Umpire Assignor to provide any necessary communication or clarification to the umpire and coaches.
- Unless as part of an approved communication outlined above, coaches will not leave the bench/dugout area or coach's box at any time to communicate with or confront an umpire and will not make nor tolerate from players or parents, negative comments and gestures about the umpire or the call in question.
    1. 1st infraction: the coach will be suspended for the next game.
    2. 2nd infraction: the coach will be suspended for a certain number of games as determined by the Board.

Section 12.05 - Suspension/Dismissal

- When coaches are not adhering to league rules, and/or complaints have been registered with the league, the appropriate Division Director will meet with the individual(s) involved to resolve all such situations.

- If compliance is not met by the individual(s), or additional complaints come to the attention of the league, the matter will be brought before the Board for review and a decision on the appropriate corrective action.
- The Board has the authority to suspend or dismiss the individual(s) when necessary.

Section 12.06 Player Disciplinary Action/Quitting

- When a persistent or significant player problem arises, the head coach's first responsibility is to communicate with the player's parents to correct the problem. If the problem persists, the head coach should consult with the appropriate Division Director.
- The Division Director will confer with the Board. If it is determined that removal of the player from the league is required, such notification will be made by the President directly to the player's parents or guardians. The player, through her adult guardians, will have the option to request a hearing in front of the Board. There will be no refund of fees to a player removed for disciplinary reasons.
- If a player quits or declines to return to her team after the league has tried to mediate any disputes, then she must sit out the remainder of the season. The Board of Directors will decide at the end of the season, on a case-by-case basis, whether she must return to her original team or be allowed to re-enter the draft.
- A player who quits before Opening Day and sits out the entire season can sign up to play the following season and must go into the draft.
- A player who has played in at least one (1) game on or after Opening Day then quits and sits out the rest of the season, remains on the team she was drafted by or assigned to and must return to said team for the next season if she chooses to play again. She may go into the draft only if her former manager chooses to release his team's rights to her. A player refusing to return to her former team the following season must provide a good reason for doing so to the Board of Directors. The Board will then rule in accordance with the best interests of the league and the player.

Article XIII. – Field usage & Scheduling Policy

Section 13.01 Centralized Calendar

- All recreational and travel games, practices, and tournaments must be entered into the league's shared calendar.
- The calendar shall be accessible to the Board and updated promptly with any changes or cancellations.

Section 13.02 Scheduling Priorities

- Recreational games take priority over travel practices.
- Travel tournaments take priority over recreational practices.

- Conflicts not covered by these priorities shall be resolved by the Field & Equipment Director, with Board oversight as needed.

Section 13.03 Board Awareness

- The Board shall receive monthly updates on field usage.
- No team may use a field unless scheduled and approved on the shared calendar.

Article XIV. - Play offs

Section 14.01

- Playoffs will be determined by the Board yearly based on division age and size, field availability, and if the schedule allows time.

Article XV. - Rules of Play

Section 15.01

- The USA Softball Rules for the current league year shall apply to all League Divisional play, subject to local amendments in each division.

Section 15.02 Supplemental Rules

- Every division may have supplemental rules that will be determined annually preceding the start of the first games by the Division Director.
- The supplemental rules for a division may be amended or changed during the season if required to improve the flow of the game.

Article XVI. - Grievance Procedure for Parents

Section 16.01 Chain of Command

- In the event of a parent's complaint the parent should first contact the coach with the issue for resolution.
- In the event no resolution has arrived or if an agreed upon resolution does not occur the parent should speak with the Division Director.
- The Division Director will speak with the coach to achieve resolution. The Division Director will notify the parent of the agreed resolution.
- In the event satisfaction is still not received the parent should then contact the President.
- The President will speak separately with the parent and coach to obtain information from both sides.
- The President may seek a third-party opinion from other parents or coaches.
- The President will meet with the parent and coach with the resolution arrived at and the coach will be expected to implement such resolution without retaliation.
- The President should seek advice from the Board.

Article XVII – League Branding and Merchandise

Section 17.01 – Logo Protection

- The SBSL logo is a protected asset of the League. No individual, committee, or external party may alter, redesign, or replace the official logo without a formal vote and approval by the Board.

Section 17.02 – Apparel and Merchandise Authorization

- All apparel, merchandise, or promotional items bearing the SBSL name, logo, or likeness must be approved by a majority vote of the Board prior to production or sale. This includes uniforms, spirit wear, fundraising items, and vendor partnerships.

Section 17.03 – Vendor Agreements

- Any agreement with third-party vendors for the production or sale of SBSL-branded merchandise must be reviewed and approved by the Board. All contracts must align with SBSL's mission, branding standards, and financial policies.

Section 17.04 – Enforcement

- Unauthorized use of the SBSL logo or sale of apparel may result in disciplinary action, including revocation of vendor privileges, reimbursement of unauthorized expenses, or other remedies as determined by the Board.

Article XVIII - Travel Team/All Stars

Section 18.01 Eligibility

- To be eligible for a Travel Team a player must conform to the rules and regulations as established by USA Softball.

Section 18.02 - Selection Process

- Teams will be fielded in the 8U, 10U, 12U, 14U, 16U, 18U, and 18+ Divisions where appropriate numbers of participants exist.
- Players will be selected by the head coach through evaluations and reviewed by the Travel Director.
- A majority vote of the Board will decide in the event of disagreements on player placement to a Travel Team.

Section 18.03 General Information

- Any player in the 16u Division and under must play in the SBSL recreational program to be eligible to play on an SBSL Travel Team.
- A player must be an active player in the league to qualify for the travel team and must participate in at least 65% of recreational league games.
- If in the opinion of the Board, a player does not meet her league team obligations, she may be disciplined by a vote of the Board of Directors.
- Any player in the 18u Division eligible to play in the SBSL Recreational program but elects not to participate will be charged an administrative fee to be determined annually by the Board.

- Costs associated with participating on a Travel Team are additional to the costs to play in the recreational program. These costs are the responsibility of the Parents or Guardians. Costs may be offset by League sanctioned fundraising.
- All players must abide by all rules as outlined in the ASA/USA Softball Rulebook.
- It is a privilege to participate on a Travel Team and all players and coaches should represent SBSL with good sportsmanship and respect for the game.
- A code of Conduct/Attendance Contract shall be signed by each player and parent/guardian at the start of each season.
- Adherence to the League Code of Conduct applies at all Travel Team events.
- As this is a select team, all playing time and positions will be determined by the head coach.
- The fee structure for travel teams shall be set by the Travel Director and approved by the Board.
- Finances for the individual teams shall be managed by the Treasurer.

Article XIX. - Financial Policy

Section 19.01

- The Board of Directors shall decide all matters pertaining to the finances of the League and shall place all income in a common treasury and shall administer the expenditures and disbursement of League funds in such a manner as will give no individual or team an advantage over those in competition with such individuals or team.
- The Board of Directors shall be responsible for the Boards solvency.
- The Board shall not permit the contribution of funds or property to individual teams but shall solicit it for the common treasury of the League, thereby to discourage favoritism among teams and to endeavor to equalize benefits of the League.
- The Board shall not permit the disbursement of League funds for other than the conduct of League activities.
- No Board Member, General Member, Coach or player or anyone else affiliated with the League shall receive, directly or indirectly, any salary or compensation from the League for services rendered as said member.
- League funds shall be maintained in a bank account in the League's name. The President and the Treasurer shall be authorized to sign all checks. In the event the President and the Treasurer are from the same family, another board member other than the President will also be authorized to sign checks to remove any conflict of interest.
- ALL league-related expenses MUST be submitted to the league Treasurer and reviewed prior to payment to ensure the expense is within budget.

- ALL major purchases MUST be pre-approved by the Board. For this section, “major purchases” shall be defined as those in the excess of $500.00.
- The Players and League Members will be expected to help in raising funds for the League expenses. The type of fundraisers will be determined by the voting members. All fundraisers will be presented to the Board.
- The Treasurer shall collect and record all League income in a timely manner and deposit into the League’s bank account
- A monthly Profit and Loss Statement must be given on the concession stand during the season. This should be given by the Treasurer or Facilities & Concession Manager during the Monthly Board Meeting to show total revenue, total expenses, and net profit.

Article XX. – Contingencies

Section 20.01

- If an unforeseen contingency arises which is not otherwise covered within the scope of these bylaws, the Board is hereby authorized to formulate policy and make decisions pertaining thereto consistent with these bylaws.

Article XX1. - Dissolution

Section 21.01

- In the event of dissolution of Somerset Berkley Softball League, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose.